

(a) the names of Central & State Public Undertakings engaged in the exploration of minerals in Rajasthan;

(b) the work done by those Public Sector Undertakings in the Seventh Plan period;

(c) whether any special scheme has been prepared any programme drawn to increase the mineral exploration in Rajasthan by those Public Sector Undertakings in Eighth Plan; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Export of Medicinal Plants

3899. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to increase the export of medicinal plants during the current financial year;

(b) if so, the quantum of different kinds of medicinal plants proposed to be exported to different countries; and

(c) the amount of foreign exchange expected to be earned by exporting those medicinal plants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI ARANGIL SHREEDHARAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Basic Chemicals, Pharmaceuticals & Cosmetics Export Promotion Council (CHEMEXCIL), Bombay has proposed an export target of Rs. 95 crores for export of medicinal plants during 1990-91. No separate target for each individual item of medicinal plant has, however, been fixed.

Royalty rate of Minerals in Rajasthan

3900. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to refer to the reply given on 20th April, 1990 to Unstarred Question No. 5823, re: royalty on minerals in Rajasthan and state:

(a) whether the recommendations of the Study Group in respect of the revision of royalty rate of minerals deposited in Rajasthan has been taken into consideration by Government;

(b) if so, the specific recommendations made by the Study Group; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to raise the royalty rate of minerals in Rajasthan?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) to (c) The recommendations of the Study Group for revising the rates of royalty wherever considered necessary, in respect of minerals other than coal, lignite, sand for stowing and minor minerals, are under consideration of the Government at present. After consideration, the specific rates will be notified by the Central Government in due course. The rates of royalty so notified are uniformly applicable throughout the country.

[Translation] 178-311

Visit of Ministers, Secretary and High Officials from Foreign Countries for Trade Promotion

3901. SHRI RAJVEER SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Ministers, Secretaries and high officials from foreign countries who visited India during 1989 for promotion of trade with their countries;

(b) the names of the countries with whom agreements have been signed in this regard; and

(c) the subjects on which agreements have been signed?